

WEATHER.

Snow tonight, followed by clearing Saturday; colder; lowest temperature tonight about 10 degrees.

No. 38,734.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1912—TWENTY PAGES.

The Star is the only afternoon paper in Washington that prints the news of the Associated Press.

CONTAINING ON PAGE 12 CLOSING NEW YORK STOCK QUOTATIONS.

ONE CENT.

ITALIANS DESTROY 8 TURKISH SHIPS

Victors Sustain No Loss in Severe Naval Engagement in the Red Sea.

SULTAN'S COMMUNICATION WITH ARABIA IS CUT OFF

Sunken Gunboats Used to Convey Reinforcements to Cyrenaica.

BATTLE IS STIFF, BUT SHORT

Feeble Armament of Turkish Craft Soon Succumbs to Superior Weapons of Italy's War Vessels.

ROME, January 12.—In a severe naval action in the Red sea seven Turkish gunboats and an armed yacht were destroyed by Italian warships.

The action occurred January 7 outside the Bay of Kufunda, a small walled town with a garrison and two forts, about 500 miles north of Aden, on the east coast of the Red sea.

The division of Italian cruisers which has been scouring the coasts of the Red sea in search of Turkish war vessels and ships conveying contraband destined for the Turkish garrisons in the Yemen province in Arabia encountered the flotilla of Turkish gunboats and at once opened fire. The Turks replied, but their feeble armament succumbed to the superior weapons of the Italian war vessels. The fight was stiff, but soon ended in the victory of the Italians.

Three Cruisers in Fleet.

The Italian warships cruising in the Red sea since the beginning of the war include the cruisers Piemonte, Calabria and Puglia and a flotilla of destroyers, Maszova is the base from which they operated. Several weeks ago they bombarded the towns of Sheikh Said, Mocha and Aden.

A brief official note issued this afternoon says: "The Italian fleet in the Red sea encountered and destroyed seven Turkish gunboats and captured a Turkish armed yacht. The Turkish warships offered a violent resistance, but no loss was sustained by the Italians."

The Italian warships which took the principal part in the battle were the cruiser Piemonte, the destroyer Calabria and the destroyer Puglia. The commander in chief had received orders to destroy or capture the Turkish gunboats, and he was the only one of the Turkish flotilla which was not destroyed during the fight. The Fauvette is being brought to Rome under convoy.

Turks Fire Wildly.

During the brief combat the Turkish gunners displayed utter incompetence, their small guns being fired wildly. The shells from the Italian ships were not directed at the Turkish yacht Fauvette, which accompanied the gunboats, and she was the only one of the Turkish flotilla which was not destroyed during the fight. The Fauvette is being brought to Rome under convoy.

DISTRICT BILL IS UP.

Chairman Johnson Reads Argument on the Organic Act.

After several pension bills had been put out of the way in the House this afternoon Representative Burleson of Texas called up the District of Columbia appropriation bill. He gave an allowance of time to Representative Johnson of Kentucky, chairman of the District committee, who read a long argument with reference to the organic act.

No progress is likely to be made on the bill probably today, as practically all of the time up to the hour of adjournment at 6 o'clock has been allotted to members for general debate. Mr. Burleson will speak tomorrow in explanation of provisions of the measure and in defense of the enormous cut made by the appropriation committee in the Commissioners' estimates.

OPENS STATE STRONG BOX.

Safe Robber Called in From Prison.

When Looks Back.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., January 12.—Paul Hayes, accused of several safe robberies in Oklahoma City, gained entrance to the state's strong box yesterday under official supervision. When State Treasurer Dunlop tried the combination the vault door did not respond. Experts were called, but their efforts were without result. Hayes was brought from the prison at Tecumseh. After a few minutes' manipulation he had the safe, which is equipped with a time lock and burglar-proof appliances, open and state funds at the disposal of the treasurer. Before his arrest Hayes was employed as a safe expert.

SEEKING ABANDONED SHIP.

Revenue Cutter Goes to Aid of the Annie F. Kimball.

NORFOLK, Va., January 12.—Delayed for several hours later than was expected in the taking of coal the revenue cutter Monday put to sea today in the face of severe weather to search for the three-masted schooner Annie F. Kimball of Bath, Me., reported abandoned and drifting in the northeast of Cape Hatteras. The K. Kimball, when passed by the steamer K. Luckenbach yesterday had reefed main and foretopsails.

Appeals From Admiralty Court.

LONDON, January 12.—The White Star Steamship Line has entered an appeal against the decision of the admiralty court, which found on December 19 that the pilot of the Olympic was to blame for the collision with the British liner, the Titanic, near Cape Hatteras. The revenue cutter Mohawk was ordered to go to her assistance.

TROOPS ON THE WAY

American Soldiers Sail From Manila to Northern China.

SENT TO GUARD RAILROAD

Strict Law of Neutrality Laid Down by Gen. Bell.

LANCHOW SITUATION GRAVE

Imperialists Reported to Be Acting With Fiercish Brutality Toward Republican Prisoners.

MANILA, January 12.—The United States transport Logan left this afternoon at 2:30 with a battalion of the 15th Infantry and other details on board on the way to Chin-Wang-Tao, in northern China. After they have disembarked the American troops are to be employed in guarding a section of the Peking railroad from Tang-Shan to Lanchow against the possible attack of either imperialist or republican troops. The departure took place in the presence of a throng of civilians and soldiers of other regiments, while women crowded the quay bidding tearful farewells and wishing Godspeed to the troops. No women were allowed to accompany the expedition.

Maj. Gen. J. Franklin Bell, commander-in-chief of the army in the Philippines, made a short parting speech to the officers and men of the expedition just before the transport sailed. Gen. Bell urged the troops to show pride in their American citizenship while they were on foreign soil. The Chinese, he said, were worthy of a square deal, and he expected the American soldiers to treat them in a worthy way.

Friendly Relations Imperative.

He begged the officers and men to be very particular in regard to courtesies and salutes to other foreign officers, and he impressed upon the men the necessity for maintaining their reputation for cleanliness and a neat personal appearance. In conclusion he explained the desirability of maintaining the most friendly relations with all foreigners with whom they should come into contact.

The loading of the transport Logan was not completed until shortly after midnight. A driving rain which fell throughout the forenoon caused considerable delay. The ninety-five horses and mules which are attached to the expedition as gun teams and draft horses were taken on board at the last moment. Eight big army wagons were also shipped, as well as an automobile truck and one or two ambulances.

Vessel Closely Inspected.

Gen. Bell, accompanied by his staff, made a thorough inspection of the vessel and of each man of the expedition before noon. Gen. Bell talked for several minutes with the assembled officers of the regiment, giving them their final instructions.

Ferocity of Imperialists.

LONDON, January 12.—The gravest reports are coming to hand regarding the situation at Lanchow. According to a news agency dispatch from Tientsin, the report reached that city yesterday that the imperial troops were acting with the most fiendish brutality. The alleged acts made that they captured an officer of the republican troops, whom they first tortured and subsequently skinned alive. They also shot a Red Cross assistant.

Japan Declines to Aid Line.

TOKIO, January 12.—The Japanese government has declined, on the ground of the maintenance of neutrality, to assist the Chinese revolutionary government to negotiate a loan in Japan. The proposal was made to the Japanese government through the Japanese consul at Shanghai.

DECLINES TO FORM CABINET.

M. Bourgeois of France Begs Off on Plea of Ill Health.

PARIS, January 12.—Leon Bourgeois today declined the task of forming a cabinet, tendered by President Fallieres at the suggestion of the presidents of the senate and chamber of deputies. M. Bourgeois pleaded unsatisfactory health. He was once premier and has held portfolios in several cabinets of the republic. President Fallieres today asked Theophile Delcasse to form a cabinet, and the latter is now consulting with a number of his colleagues.

WANTS SEAT IN CONGRESS.

Judge Watson, Who Presided in Beattie Trial, Quits Bench.

RICHMOND, Va., January 12.—Gov. Mann today received the resignation of Judge Walter A. Watson, who presided over the Beattie trial, the resignation to take effect January 20. Judge Watson on that date will begin his campaign as a candidate for the seat in Congress now held by Robert Turnbull. Former Representative Robert G. Southall is a candidate for the judgeship to be vacated by Judge Watson.

FIRE ON OCEAN LINER.

Passengers on Boat From Philadelphia Have Exciting Experience.

GREENOCK, Scotland, January 12.—Passengers of the Allan line steamer Pretorian, which sailed from Philadelphia December 29, for St. John, N. F., and Glasgow, reached here this morning, reporting an alarming experience. A fire broke out in the smoking room on the upper deck yesterday morning, when the liner was about 130 miles from Malin Head. The fire assumed perilous proportions, but the prompt work of the crew averted the spread of the conflagration. The smoking room, however, was entirely destroyed. No one was injured.

ACCUSED BY CAIRNS

American With Shuster Complaints of Minister Russell.

HIS CABLEGRAM TO SULZER

Declares United States Diplomat Thwarts Claims Against Persia.

CONTRACT RELEASE REFUSED

Chairman of House Foreign Affairs Committee to Investigate. Shuster Leaves Teheran.

P. E. Cairns, one of the young Americans employed by W. Morgan Shuster to reorganize Persia's financial affairs, today cabled Chairman Sulzer of the House committee on foreign affairs an urgent appeal.

He charged that the Persian government refused to release them from their contracts, and that the State Department at Washington was "influenced by American Minister Charles W. Russell" against their claims.

Text of Cablegram.

The cablegram, dated at Teheran, follows: "Fourteen American officials affected by Russia's ultimatum equally. Shuster desires release, same terms. Have presented claims Persian government for full salary of unexpired term, traveling expenses, allowances Anglo-Russian language supporting claim in good faith. Persian cabinet will obey their instructions. 'Department State influenced by American minister here, endeavoring destroy our claims. Is obsessed with idea of compelling Americans remain in Persia regardless of our desires and unbearable conditions. Your assistance through State Department imperative.'"

Secretary Knox Reticent.

Secretary Knox did not wish to discuss the story after the cabinet meeting today, further than to say there was evident friction between the young Americans with Shuster in Persia and Minister Russell. Mr. Knox, however, did not believe the Americans were being physically forced to remain in Persia, but that their grievances were due to their inability to collect their salaries from the Persian government.

The four Persian members of the treasury commission, who were appointed to assist Mr. Morgan Shuster, in administering that department, resigned yesterday. The resignations were taken after the meeting of the cabinet. Nothing has been said in the way of revenue since Mr. Shuster was dismissed except that he had been taken to the hospital.

Shuster Leaves Persia.

TEHERAN, January 12.—W. Morgan Shuster, the ex-treasurer general of Persia, accompanied by his wife and children, started on his way to Europe yesterday morning. The party left here in the regent's automobile. Mr. Shuster had been in Persia for several years, and his family traced back as far as 1299.

Leaves Note to Daughter.

In the room in which he took his life lay a letter from Interstate Commerce Commissioner Franklin K. Lane, who wrote: "I hope that with the dawn of a new year you will appreciate life as not a dreary blank for you."

His Requests Ignored.

"Since then, notwithstanding my repeated requests, no proper step has been taken to relieve me of my duties, while a cabinet composed of men who were thoroughly vindictive, owing to the support which the mejlis had accorded me, sought every possible means of humiliating and embarrassing me."

MAINE IMPORTING POTATOES.

First Time State Has Been Forced to Augment Crop.

PORTLAND, Me., January 12.—A cargo of Scotch potatoes is being unloaded here today. This is said to be the first time in history that Maine, one of the chief potato-raising states in the Union, has been compelled to resort to importation to augment its potato crop.

FINDS GHOSTLY SIGHT.

Woman Discovers Husband and Son Dead on Returning After Absence.

NEW YORK, January 12.—Mrs. Paul Bukov, in happy expectancy of seeing her husband, a prosperous butcher, and her son, Frederick, after three days' absence from them in the country, unlocked the door of the family apartment in Harlem last night to find them both stretched out dead. The slowly escaping from a partly open fixture, which is believed to have caused death, which is believed to have occurred Tuesday, and to have been accidental.

DEATH UNDER INQUIRY.

Fatal Scalding of Helpless Paralytic at Charitable Institution.

NEW YORK, January 12.—Charles Commissioner Drummond today began an investigation of the death of Harry Williams, an aged inmate of the New York City farm colony at Castleton Corners, Staten Island, a helpless paralytic who was scalded to death in a bathtub this week.

GOVERNOR LOSES TEETH.

South Dakota Executive's Speech at Conference Is Delayed.

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., January 12.—Gov. R. S. Vessey lost his false teeth yesterday afternoon, and the delegates to the progressive republican conference were kept waiting while the chief executive made diligent search for them. Word finally came from the laundry that the teeth had been found in the bed linen sent from the hotel in the morning. They were sent for and the governor was permitted to make his speech.



THE MAN WHO COMPLAINS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE OLD-FASHIONED WINTERS NOWADAYS.

PROF. LUIGI VENTURA DIES BY HIS OWN HAND

Italian of Noble Birth Shoots Himself While Suffering From Despondency.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 12.—Luigi Ventura, an Italian of noble birth and of ability as a writer and lecturer, committed suicide here last night by shooting himself through the heart in a fit of despondency, due to family troubles. His complete surname was Ventura de Leone Barre, and his family traced back as far as 1299.

Effort to Rally Majority for Lodge Amendment—Democratic Opposition.

Efforts are being made today to rally a majority of senators to the support of the Lodge amendment to the resolution ratifying the arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France.

Provisions of the Amendment.

The Lodge amendment provides, essentially: "The American members of such commission shall be appointed by the President, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, and with the further understanding that the reservation in article I of the treaty, that the special agreement in each case shall be made by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, means the concurrence of the Senate in the full exercise of its constitutional powers in respect to every special agreement, whether submitted to the Senate as the result of a report of a joint high commission of inquiry under article III or otherwise."

Other Officers Liable to Transfer.

Other officers mentioned as subject to transfer to other stations in case the four-year-tour-of-duty-at-one-station is strictly enforced are Lieut. Col. William C. Langitt and Maj. Spencer Cosby, both of the Corps of Engineers. Col. Langitt, who is now in charge of the District water supply system, has been on continuous duty in this city since 1907, when he was stationed at Washington barracks.

Ballot on Nation-Wide Strike.

NEW YORK, January 12.—At the headquarters of the United Garment Workers of America here it is announced that preparations are being made for a secret ballot on a proposed nation-wide strike. It is claimed that the strike, if called, will affect 125,000 garment workers in this city and 250,000 throughout the country.

FIGHTING IN BAHIA REPORTED

Brazilian Government Has Dispatched Warship to the City.

RIO JANEIRO, Brazil, January 12.—The situation in the state of Bahia has become very serious. The federal government yesterday dispatched a warship to the city of Bahia, where fighting was reported to have taken place. Business is at a standstill and the people fear further disorder.

SPEND NIGHT OUT OF DOORS.

Boy Inmates of Kentucky Reform School Play Truant.

LEXINGTON, Ky., January 12.—Four of the fifteen truants who escaped from the Greendale reform school, near here, last night were captured in Lexington this morning and returned to the school. Nine are still at large. It is believed they have taken refuge in nearby towns. The lads escaped early last night. Search for them was immediately begun, as it was feared the truants, who had taken the country roads, would be overcome by a blinding blizzard.

Sunday Magazine

OF The Sunday Star

CONTEST IN THE SENATE OVER PEACE TREATIES

Effort to Rally Majority for Lodge Amendment—Democratic Opposition.

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ARMY OFFICERS HERE MAY BE TRANSFERRED

Those Who Have Spent Four Years in City May Be Booked for Other Stations.

All officers of the army who have been stationed in the District of Columbia for more than four years are more or less alarmed at the action of Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, chief of staff.

Provisions of the Amendment.

The Lodge amendment provides, essentially: "The American members of such commission shall be appointed by the President, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, and with the further understanding that the reservation in article I of the treaty, that the special agreement in each case shall be made by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, means the concurrence of the Senate in the full exercise of its constitutional powers in respect to every special agreement, whether submitted to the Senate as the result of a report of a joint high commission of inquiry under article III or otherwise."

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STILL DEEPER DRIFTS

Snowing Will Continue, With Increase in Winds.

CITY HAS SMALL BLIZZARD

Hard to Get Laborers Enough to Clear Street Crossings.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC REGULAR

River Navigation Much Hampered. Appearance of Open Summer Cars Causes Much Comment.

By tomorrow morning the city will be deeper than ever under the snow which arrived last night from the Ohio valley, and if the strong north and northwest winds are true to the promise of Forecast Board there will be deep drifts in open spaces where old Boreas plays havoc with ears and faces and piles the blanket of white flakes high over fence rails and front steps. A small sized blizzard is Washington's lot for today, but in that respect the city is no worse off than every other city in the east.

Snow is falling today over almost half the continent, and even the panhandle of Texas is shivering with unusual cold, the temperature there being twenty or thereabouts. Washington will have a bad day with snow, sleet, and swirling snowstorm and sleet, helped along by a gale from the Arctic circle.

Storm warnings have been displayed up and down the Atlantic coast and in the southern states, and a rough time toward through the Atlantic will have a tough time today and tomorrow.

Hard to Get Crossings Cleaned.

Despite the stories of lack of work coming from the missions and bread line centers, Supt. Paxton of the street cleaning department said he had difficulty this morning in getting enough day laborers to go out with snow plows and street sweeper gangs. He wants 600 men who are not afraid of a snow shovel, but all he could get together this morning was a little army of twenty men.

The street cleaning department wagons are hauling snow away from street intersections in the city, and the snow is being dumped on the site of the old Pennsylvania railroad station, on the railroad tracks near the Union station and in sewers. Mr. Paxton has \$10,000 for snow work, and this storm will cost him about \$1,000 a day, if he gets his 600 men.

Little Delay to Railway Traffic.

The storm had not interfered with railroad traffic to any serious extent today. Inquiry at the Union station developed the fact that southern trains are arriving from fifteen minutes to an hour late, but all the other trains are keeping well to their schedules.

Traffic by water, however, is getting close to a standstill. With the exception of the big steamers running to Norfolk, the steamer traffic is almost at a standstill. The steamer Northumberland, due here Wednesday from Baltimore, made its first start in a mass of ice and snow as far as Coan river, beyond which point the captain decided would be too difficult to attempt the channel. The big naval tug, the USS Albatross, is stuck in the ice.

Crews Waiting for a Thaw.

Ice and snow have covered the wharves and have made fair ships of glass of even the most prosaic old buoys in the harbor. While the crews are waiting for a thaw, the red-hot stoves in the river-front offices are hearing a lot of cold weather yarns.

One of the yarns had to do with James Gorman, the fireman on the tug Capt. Toby of the Taylor fleet, who took a cold bath yesterday afternoon. The Capt. Toby lay alongside the tug Camilla, upon the bow of which an ice plug was being lifted. Gorman was helping, and in crossing from one tug to another on a narrow plank he slipped off into twenty-four feet of ice-cold water. Fortunately, the ice plug held him up, and he was pulled up by the crew. The fireman was somewhat surprised, but said the water in the harbor was so cold that he would not have been able to swim.

Arrival of Oysters.

Oyster lovers who dreaded a famine of their favorite bivalves may be assured that the 3,000 bushels which came up in a string of craft hitched on to the stern of the tug M. Mitchell Davis of the Taylor fleet will be more than enough to supply the immediate demand. Not a sign of an oyster was to be seen aboard a vessel in the river yesterday. The dealers had a stock on hand which they had purchased at the beginning of the freeze, and this had been augmented by the arrival of the oysters. The oyster trade is somewhat surprised, but said the water in the harbor was so cold that he would not have been able to swim.

Open Cars Running.

The city was treated to the rare sight of open summer cars on the Washington Railway and Electric Company's line yesterday morning, although through trains are sometimes taken off in snowy weather, the open car was in evidence yesterday afternoon. A regular passenger, who traveled the line for years, described the summer car of yesterday in this fashion: "It was snowing hard. The wind was blowing sharp bullets of sleet against my face, and I had on thin gloves. I was carrying large bundles under each arm, standing on a street corner waiting for a Georgetown car. When I sighted one through the storm my heart was glad. I stepped on, and the car was waiting for me. I don't think so, but of course, I do not recall the details of the Dingley tariff."